

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XX

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1898

No. 9

## Editorial

### Beliefs and Doubts

The following from an exchange is more than a mere play upon words, altho it is as interesting for that reason as it is profitable for the good sense it contains: "You have your beliefs and your doubts. Believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts. Never doubt your beliefs, and never believe your doubts."

### Ability of Our Churches to Give

With a great majority of church members it is not a matter of ability but of *willingness*. A *will* to give brings with it ability unheard of before. The following by Mr. George Darsie in the *Christian Standard* is to the point:—They all have ability. Not a church in the land but can give something to missions. Our Saviour measures our giving by the ratio between the amount of our ability. In his arithmetic the half-cent of the poor widow counted for "more" than the "much" given by the rich out of their abundance. And self-denying gifts from a equally slender purse are just as precious to him and count just as big now as then. A church's ability to give is always in excess of what it thinks it is. Practice it till the giving-habit is well formed, and it will be astonished to see the amount it can give. The great need of our churches today is not financial ability, but *consecrated willingness*.

### Our Missions

We trust there will be a hearty and liberal response to the appeal by Brother Cassel in last week's paper both as to missions and the Publishing House. The National Mission Board is greatly in need of money to carry on its work successfully. The missions thus far inaugurated by the Brethren church can easily be supported, and the cause should not be allowed to suffer for lack of funds. Please remember that the Mission Board can do nothing only as you furnish the means with which to work. This is the work of the church and the whole church should join in its support. It is the work which above all other has the sanction of the Divine Master, and he graciously smiles upon all our efforts in this department of church enterprise. Shall we disappoint the blessed Master? Surely not. Send in your contribution to Brother Cassel, be it ever so little. Enough "widows" with their "mites" will support the work.

### Call for Extra Copies

We have already had several calls for extra copies of page 16 of last week's paper. We have also been asked to announce a rate at which we could furnish them per thousand. If a sufficient number of orders are received we will furnish them at the rate of \$1.00 per thousand copies, not including transportation charges, which in lots of one thousand would be cheaper by express than by mail. They can be expressed at special pound rates. W. C. T. U. and S. S. C. E. organizations and young people's societies should be able to make use of thousands of copies. They are very cheap at \$1.00 per thousand, being but ten cents per hundred. Let us know how many you want at the above rate. No money need be sent until notified that they are ready for delivery. Send in your order on postal card and do so at once.

### Nearness to Jesus

The topic for young people's service on Sunday night was a precious one, "How to Get Near to Jesus." It is just what every disciple of Jesus wants to do, get near to the Master's heart. Living close to Jesus is the secret of the peaceful, happy, restful life of the Christian. It is at the feet of Jesus where he learns his sweetest lessons, the precious lesson of faith and hope and love. It is here where he gathers strength for life's conflicts and trials. O, it is a wonderful place to be, at the feet of Jesus. On the last birthday of Mr. Whittier, some one wrote, "To live near the heart of Christ was his creed." The highest ideal of the Christian life of which we can have any conception is to live near the heart of Christ. In all the world it is the safest place, for into that holy shelter no storms can ever break. It is hiding in the rock with God's hand gently laid upon us. It is there where life is transformed into the likeness of the blessed Master. He who lives close to the heart of Jesus will grow like him. O, the transforming power of the companionship of the Christ of God. May we ever live near him, in him and by him.

### Our Premium Offer

Several ministers have already taken advantage of our very liberal premium offer which enables them to secure that magnificent Bible Work, advertised on page 15. Twenty renewals or eight new subscribers will make you the happy possessor of this work. Or if you prefer, ten renewals and four new ones, will also secure it for you.

In many places the required number can easily be secured. Why not unite and make your pastor a present of this valuable Bible Work? It will cost you no money and we assure you that such a present would be highly appreciated by your pastor. If you are so situated that you can not secure the required number for this book, you can certainly avail yourself of one or the other or both of the first and second premiums. To secure the Pastor's Hand Book requires but two new subs. or five renewals.

### Bridle the Tongue

Men in high places are sometimes not any better endowed with wisdom than others in the more obscure walks of life, an observation which was illustrated by the De Lome incident. This gentleman fell to talking with his mouth at a time above all others when it was calculated to do the most harm. What an admirable thing a St. James bridle would be for him.

### God Gives the Opportunity

Opportunities for doing good are from God. It remains for man to use or misuse them. We are surrounded with rich store houses to every one of which God has put a door with a knob. It requires the turning of these knobs to throw open the doors of these treasure houses that we may enter in and possess ourselves of that which God has provided for us. Are we turning these knobs? That is to say, are we using the opportunities God has provided for each one of us wherewith to enrich our own lives and to make this world better and sweeter for having lived in it? God furnishes the treasure house but he will not open the door. That remains for us to do. Every Sunday-school teacher, minister, father and mother stands before such doors. O, that he might be wise, throw open the door and enter in where the King is revealed in his beauty.

### Our Quarterly Announcement

On page 16 of this issue will be found the announcement of our Sunday-school literature for second quarter 1898. The same will be sent with order blank and other circulars to all schools whose address we have on record. If you never used our literature or if you expect to organize a new school write for these circulars and our special terms to new schools. Samples of all our Sunday-school lesson helps and papers will be sent free on application. We call special attention to *Our Little Folks* for next